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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 3, NO. 10

50 CENTS

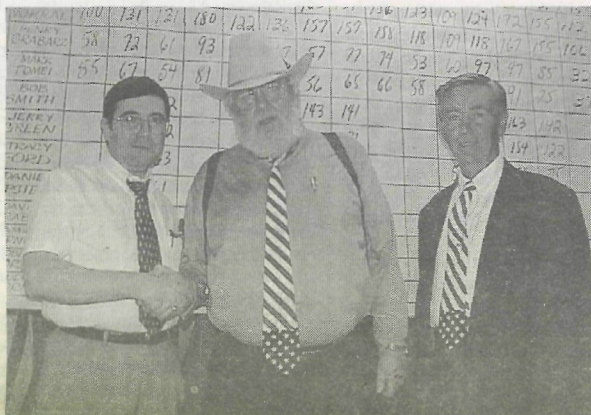
NOVEMBER 5, 1999

Voters Re-elect Incumbents Vokral, Kubala by 2-1 Margin

Democratic incumbents Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala were re-elected to three years on the Borough Council by more than a 2-1 margin. Voter turnout was lighter than last year's 45%. Of the 11,848 eligible voters, only 3,285 (27.73%) came out to cast their votes.

Ed Kubala was the top vote getter with 2083, Jim Vokral received 2045, Hank Grabarz and Mark "Mel" Tomej got 1030 and 978, respectively. The mayor and council will remain in the democratic hands again.

Both Grabarz and Tomej had



(L to R) Councilmen Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala celebrate their re-election, along with Mayor Dan Gallagher after the votes were counted Tuesday evening.

campaigns on the premise that a diversified council would provide different viewpoints on issues, thus resulting in better decisions.

Kubala and Vokral were delighted with the election results which gave them more than double the votes of their republican challengers. They thanked the residents of South Plainfield for giving them a resounding vote of confidence and promised to con-

tinue to work to earn their trust and confidence.

The bonding of \$50 million for bridges and roads received 1,477 no votes and 1,415 yes votes locally. This question passed by nearly 2-1 vote statewide. The bonds will fund repairs to 530 county-controlled bridges in the state, as well as three NJ Transit projects and various other state road improvements.

The question on the increase in

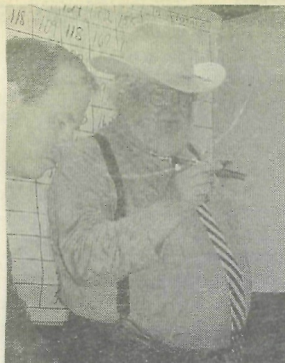
property tax deductions for war veterans received 2,347 yes votes to 605 no votes, locally. It passed statewide by nearly a 4-1 margin. This will allow an increase in tax deductions for veterans from \$50 to \$250, phased over the next four years.

The amendment to the state constitution to exclude lottery money for prisons was approved. Locally the vote was 1618, yes and 1165, no. Statewide this also passed by a 2-1 margin. The Department of Corrections will now have to draw funds from the general treasury.

Free Flu Shots Still Available



The Middlesex County Health Department was at Borough Hall on Monday to give free flu shots. The shots will again be available at the Middle School on Sunday, Nov. 7, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. They are provided at no charge to Middlesex County residents who are 18 years of age or older. Pneumococcal immunizations are also available by appointment only at no charge to Middlesex County residents who are 65 years of age or older. Middlesex County will only provide this vaccine if you have not previously received it. Bring your medicare card if you are a Medicare recipient.



Tricks, treats or sleep?

However you celebrate, Halloween is the time to be a kid....for more ghosts, ghouls and fools, see pages 6 and 7.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

We are pleased to welcome Columbia Savings Bank as the newest supporter of *The South Plainfield Observer*. For months we have asked the larger local businesses to support us in providing coverage of local news to residents by advertising in the *Observer*. We have not had too much success, especially when we reach corporate offices. But with the help of Columbia Savings Bank Branch Manager Carolyn Allen, who has been touting our paper to everyone, Columbia Savings Bank will be advertising in our paper starting this week. I hope that our readers will remember Columbia Savings when seeking banking services. Let them see that our readers support the *Observer* by patronizing our advertisers. Also, while in the bank, say thank you to Carol Allen for all the support she has given us.

The *Observer* has been publishing weekly for almost a year now. Since its inception, the paper has been faithfully supported by a handful of small businesses in our town. By advertising with us, these businesses have nurtured our belief that South Plainfield wants a local newspaper. They realize that the *Observer* is the right vehicle to provide that flow of news to residents.

We urge you, our readers, to take note of these advertisers, and whenever possible, use their services or make your purchases from them. In order for us to continue publishing and growing, their support is vital. By patronizing our advertisers, you are supporting your local paper.

Our Business and Professional Section includes many services, some offering coupons and discounts. Take the time to look over this section of services which are available locally, as well as our other advertisers. Shopping in South Plainfield is the perfect way to support not only the *Observer*, but your community.

We, again, thank Columbia Savings Bank for their demonstration of support for the community of South Plainfield, and we hope other corporations and businesses will follow suit.

We need the help of our readers to get this message across to them. The *Observer* is a positive demonstration of support for "community." By committing to advertising, businesses demonstrate their commitment to South Plainfield.

IMPORTANT BOROUGH MEETING NOTES

Board of Education Meetings 1999/2000

The following dates have been scheduled for Committee of the Whole and Regular Meetings of the South Plainfield Board of Education. All meetings are to be held on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Administration Building, Cromwell Place, unless otherwise designated.

Committee of the Whole Meetings 1999

1999: November 9, December 14
2000: January 11, February 8, March 7, April 4

Regular Monthly Meetings

1999: October 19, November 16, December 21
2000: January 18, February 15, March 14, April 11, 2000

Zoning Board of Adjustment 1999 Meeting Dates

First, third and fifth Tuesday of the month as follows:
Nov. 4 (Thursday), November 16,
November 30, December 7, December 21

Site-Plan Sub-Committee Meeting Dates:

Fourth Thursday of the month as follows:
November 25

Planning Board 1999 Meeting Dates

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month as follows:

November 9, November 23,
December 14, December 28

**ALL MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS PUBLIC MEETINGS

Monday, Nov. 8 *Monday, Nov. 22
Monday, Dec. 6 Thursday, Dec. 9

* Date has been changed from Monday, Nov 15

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.A. 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey.

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.

South Plainfield Observer

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We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

In My Opinion

Letters

To Whom It May Concern:

On Dec. 7 a meeting will be held at the Municipal Building to continue the appeal brought by Suburban Transit. The company is requesting variances to permit expansion of non-conforming use: replacement of a 10,000 gallon diesel fuel tank (fuel tank has already been installed), installation of outside drains with oil separator, allow resurfacing of exterior grounds, parking of commercial vehicles in a residential zone, and several other requests. The meeting starts at 8 p.m. For those unfamiliar with this building, it is located on 2480 Plainfield Ave. next to the public library and police department. If you are a resident in this area, received a certified letter about the appeal and/or have questions or concerns, it is important that you attend this meeting. The case number is #29-991S-Suburban Transit.

As a resident living on Rio Street for over 20 years, it is with great persistency that I ask you to attend this meeting. Over the past two decades my parents and I have raised various concerns towards the expansion and functioning of this site which have been ignored repeatedly. Some issues that have been addressed are as follows: decreased property value, air and noise pollution, traffic congestion both on Rio Street and New Market Ave., hours of business in a residential area and industrial environment in a residential area. Now that the company has overlooked certain "residential" guidelines, they have been required to appeal to the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment.

This is our chance to express our

feelings towards the functioning and expansion of Suburban Transit Company. For those of you who might feel intimidated to ask questions or raise your concerns, the board and town officials will be present to better address these issues. Please make an effort to attend this meeting.

I will be available from 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at (908) 769-7040 if you have any questions and/or concerns that I might be able to help you with.

THANK YOU,
ALEXANDRA M. MARIN

Dear Special Education Parents and Guardians,

Are you aware of the Board of Education's opinion regarding the position of teacher and duty aides in this district? Some feel that our jobs are unnecessary and therefore, dispensable. This is disheartening when you realize how closely the aides work with your children. We take our obligations very seriously, not only providing instructional support, but very often giving emotional and social help as the first contact person during a crisis. Many of us escort special students to and from classes and supervise them during lunch, recess, gym and getting on and off the bus. We pride ourselves in our devotion and sincerity in working with your children.

It is our understanding that the impasse in contract negotiations is due in part to the Board's refusal to consider any kind of salary settlement for our group. We do not receive hospital/medical coverage. Our dental coverage is very limited and there is a co-pay for prescriptions. We have less paid holidays than any other group employed by this district.

We need your support to spread the message to this community, and especially to the Board of Education and superintendent, that our jobs are important to all special needs children. Perhaps, Mr. Ferri and board members would open their eyes if they visited our schools, talked

to Special Education teachers and the child study teams, to see for themselves the dedication we the aides of South Plainfield have for your children.

We hope soon to see a fair settlement reached.

SINCERELY,
TEACHER AND DUTY AIDES

To the Editor,

I am the parent of a second grader in the South Plainfield schools. Recently I learned that because of the Core Curriculum Content Standards our youngsters must learn a language. Well, the South Plainfield Board of Education has decided that it will be Spanish. Why Spanish, I asked? Dr. DeSimon replied we were fortunate to get a teacher who is of Spanish decent and had the materials to support the curriculum. I might also alert some parents that the children lose a half hour of reading to learn this language, because it is a language and therefore the board decided to teach it during their language and reading studies.

Today, Oct. 25, I decided to observe the Spanish lesson. The children watched a Spanish version of *Casper the Friendly Ghost*, because the teacher said she wanted them to learn the Spanish word for ghost. The children were not very attentive during the video.

I feel our children need to learn English and reading at this young age. I know my son is not enjoying his Spanish lessons and needs to concentrate on his reading.

Dr. DeSimon also informed me that in two years World Languages will be on the State's ESPA test. What will happen when reading scores go down because our children have lost valuable reading time to a world language? If the state mandates a world language, then treat it as an extra as in gym, music, or art. Do not let our youngsters lose reading time, it is much to valuable to their futures.

THANK YOU,
SANDRA T. FREULER

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Mayor, Council Still Seething Over Loss of Discretionary State Aid

Mayor Dan Gallagher and members of the council again expressed displeasure at last week's council meeting with the state's failure to provide discretionary aid to South Plainfield. A resolution, which will be sent to Governor Whitman, was read at the meeting asking her to reconsider. Residents are urged to write or fax their opinions to the governor and state legislators.

South Plainfield's request for \$250,000 in aid was denied.

"We are being punished for being fiscally responsible. Our taxes have been level and we have complied with state criteria by keeping our expenses down," said Councilman Ed Kubala.

Residents are urged to write or call the governor and legislators to protest this decision of denying discretionary aid to South Plainfield. Below is a list of addresses and phone numbers. If residents make enough noise, there may be some action.

Governor Christine Todd Whitman
 Officer of the Governor
 PO Box 0001
 State House, Trenton, NJ. 08625
 609-292-6000 FAX 609-292-3454

Sen. John A. Lynch
 100 Bayard Street
 New Brunswick, NJ 08901-2165
 732-249-4550 FAX 732-249-6426

Assemblyman Gerald B. Green
 7-9 Watchung Ave., Suite 204
 Plainfield, NJ 07060-1228
 908-561-5757 FAX 908-561-5547

Assemblyman Robert G. Smith
 216 Stelton Rd., Suite E5
 Piscataway, NJ 08854
 732-752-0770 FAX 732-752-1590

Resolution Sent to Governor Christie Whitman

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY THAT:

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield has made application for Extraordinary Aid as provided by N.J.S.A. 52:27D-118.35 and;

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield has applied for and received Extraordinary Aid since the 1955 Fiscal Year and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield has exercised prudence and good business practices and principles in the crafting of their municipal budgets which have resulted in holding the line on taxes with no tax increases to property owners in recent years and;

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield's 2000 Fiscal Year Budget application for \$225,000 in Extraordinary Aid has been denied by the State requiring a local budget amendment to make up the difference by using additional Surplus Funds;

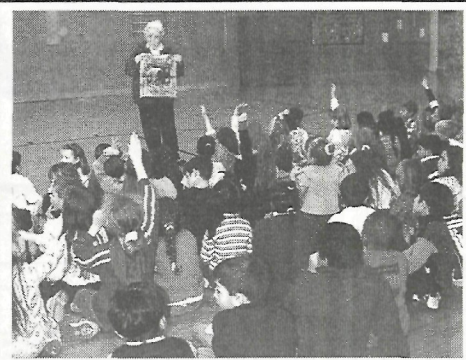
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the State's decision to eliminate the Extraordinary Aid to the Borough appears to be a punishment rather than the anticipated reward for following the good government budgetary and management practices as suggested and outlined by the Governor;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED a copy of this resolution, expressing the displeasure of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield with the State's elimination of this important revenue source, be forwarded to Governor Christine Todd Whitman, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the NJ Department of Community Affairs, the leadership of both houses of the NJ Legislature and the Legislative Representatives of the 17th District of New Jersey.

Signed by the Mayor and Council



VFW Auxiliary members Mary Dietzold, Alice McQue and Harriet Square spent last Thursday handing out 'Trick or Treat' bags courtesy of VFW Post 6763 to the children in kindergarten and first grade at Roosevelt, Kennedy, Franklin and Riley schools. On Thursday evening the VFW hosted a Halloween Party for the Keystone Community. The residents of Keystone came to the party all decked out in costume. They enjoyed playing musical chairs and the many refreshments supplied by the VFW. The Keystone Halloween Party is an annual event sponsored by the VFW.



Borough News

Council Notes

■ An ordinance was introduced which would prohibit a parent, or other person, from enrolling a non-resident student in the South Plainfield School system.

■ A four-year labor agreement between the borough and the South Plainfield Police Benevolent Association has been reached. Wage increases will be 3.73% for 1999 and 3.5% for the remaining three years of the agreement.

■ Two part-time substitute employees have been hired at the Recreation Department. Steven

Cisz will be employed as a gym supervisor at \$8.16 per hour and James Green will become a senior citizen bus driver at \$10.55 per hour.

■ A \$554.96 lien against the property at 127 Kosciusko Ave. and a \$725.98 lien against the property at 341 Oak Tree Ave. have been implemented for existing health hazards. The Board of Health has cited the owners of these properties for continued health violations. The violations were not addressed so the Borough Public Works Department took the necessary steps to clean up the health hazards.

■ The cost of repaving of Montrose Ave. will be increased by \$32,997.50. The Borough Engineer has recommended that road materials be increased to provide extra durability because of the heavy vehicle traffic. This project is financed through a grant from the NJ Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and the increased costs will be covered by the grant.

■ The borough will execute two Interlocal Services Agreements with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA). One is to conduct an assessment of the borough's Sanitary Sewer System. MCIA is researching a sanitary sewer management program.

The other agreement is for the

storage of the borough's permanent records at the County's Archives and Storage Management facility. The borough's on-site storage ability has been utilized to its maximum capacity, creating a need to seek off-site storage for legally required documents which must be retained. Safety, preservation of documents and accessibility, at a low cost, are the hallmarks of the Middlesex County Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM) Center. There will be no immediate costs associated with this agreement. Costs will be determined by actual volume of items to be stored at the DARM facility in the future.

■ William Hartman will be providing computer technical services at a cost not to exceed \$40,000 for one year.

NOTICE Special Public Meeting

A special meeting has been called by Mayor Gallagher for the entire Governing Body on Monday, November 8, 1999 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall for the purpose of authorizing payment of bills.

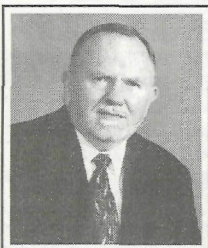
Franklin School to Hold Annual Veteran's Day Ceremonies

Next Wednesday, Nov. 10, Franklin School will be their holding annual Veterans Day Ceremonies.

If you have never been to this ceremony, we highly recommend you attend. Franklin School truly remembers our Veterans. The ceremonies will be held at 1:45 p.m. in the school gym.

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

This Weekend...

Country Breakfast And Veteran's Day Services at VFW

A country breakfast will be held on Sunday, Nov. 7, at VFW Post 6763 on Front St. from 8 to 11 a.m. The breakfast is sponsored by Military Order of the Cootie. Donation is \$4 and take outs are \$4.25.

Veteran's Day services will be held on Nov. 11 at the VFW Post 6763 on Front Street at 11 a.m. followed by an open house from noon to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For more information, phone (908) 668-9751.

New Jersey's 18th Annual "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference

The 18th Annual "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference will be held at Seton Hall University in South Orange on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

The conference is sponsored by Concerned Persons for Adoption. The scheduled speakers are Dr. David Brodzinsky and Dr. Anne Brodzinsky.

Over 25 workshops will be held throughout the day for prospective and current adoptive parents, adoption professionals and members of the adoption triad.

Workshops to be held include: Homestudy, International Opportunities, Adopting the Waiting Child, Searching, INS Update Subsidies, How to Finance an Adoption, Finding a Therapist, School Issues and Language Issues for the Internationally Adopted Child.

To register, call 908-273-5694 or email mcben216@aol.com.

Adult School Seniors Meeting

The Adult School Seniors will hold their monthly meeting on Nov. 5 at 10 a.m. in the Administration Building on Cromwell Place.

After the general meeting Jane Brady, representing St. Peter's Hospital, will speak about the Balanced Budget Act as it relates to Medicare and cuts to payments for Medicare services provided by hospitals to senior citizens.

All senior citizens who live in South Plainfield are invited to attend. Coffee and cake will be served. Transportation is available. Call 754-1047 for further information.

ball cap giveaway night to all fans in attendance. The cost is \$65 per person and includes the hockey game ticket, bus and driver gratuity. The bus will leave the Knights of Columbus Hall at 6 p.m.

For information or reservations, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222. All events are open to the public.

UNICO Will Hold Annual Pig Roast

The Plainfield Chapter of UNICO will be holding its Annual Pig Roast on Friday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Scotch Plains Italian American Hall on Valley Ave. in Scotch Plains.

The donation is \$30 per person. For more information or tickets call Michael Cortese at 561-1539.

Historical Society Meeting Will Feature Veterans

Memories of WWII will be the theme of the South Plainfield Historical Society's program at next Tuesday's meeting. Veterans who served in different branches of the armed services will talk about their experiences. Those who have agreed to speak are a Marine, a paratrooper and ex-sailors who saw duty on a destroyer and PT boat.

The Jerseyans, who are members of the South Plainfield High School historical group, are studying World War II and will attend the program with their advisor Fran Flannery.

The public is always welcome to attend. The meeting is Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in the High School Media Center (library).

Roosevelt PTA Sponsoring Bus Trip

The Roosevelt School PTA will sponsor a bus trip to Caesar's in Atlantic City on Friday, Nov. 19. The bus will leave Roosevelt School at 6 p.m.

Spread the Word!

Submit your events for the AROUND TOWN page. Mail or drop off your stories and photos: The South Plainfield OBSERVER, 1100 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

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sharp. The cost is \$12 with a return bonus of \$19.

Call Michele at 908-753-0124 to reserve a seat or for info.

Holiday Craft Show At John E. Riley

John E. Riley School will be hosting a holiday craft show on Friday, Dec. 3. Show hours will be from 5 to 9 p.m.

The show will feature new and handcrafted merchandise. Refreshments will be available. Come do your holiday shopping at Riley School.

For vendor information, call (908) 668-8252.

Tourette Syndrome Support Meeting

The next meeting of the Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group of Middlesex County will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. at JFK Hospital located on James St. in Edison, in the Neuroscience Institute Department.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Michael Selbst. The topic, "Behavior Therapy," will be discussed.

Future meetings will be held on Jan. 11, March 14 and May 9, 2000.

For more information, contact Debbie at 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.

SP Athletic Booster Club Plans Sport Raffle Auction

The South Plainfield Booster Club will be holding a Sport Raffle Auction on Dec. 11. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the raffle will begin at 7 p.m.

AARP Chapter 4144 To Hold Meeting

AARP Chapter 4144 will be running a bus trip on Sunday, Nov. 28, to Bucks County Playhouse to see "The Chorus Line."

They plan to browse the many beautiful shops of New Hope and lunch at the quaint Logan Inn located across from the playhouse. The cost is \$49 and covers transportation/luncheon and the show.

For information, call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at 752-3764. Be prepared to leave a message.

SPHS Class of 1979 Planning Reunion

What a long strange trip it has been since graduation from South High School in 1979. Join us at the twenty year reunion of the class of 1979 and tell us about what the past 20 years have been for you.

The reunion will be held on Saturday, Nov. 27, at the Pines Manor located on Route 27 in Edison, from 8-12 p.m.

The cost is \$45 per person and includes a buffet and a DJ. There will be a cash bar. Pass the word to other alumni. For more information log on to <http://idt.net/~abbottk/SPHS1979.HTML>.

Single Parents Group to Meet

A newly formed Single Parents of Central New Jersey group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 7:30-10:30 p.m. For info, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail nglpntnj@aol.com.

Columbiettes Upcoming Events

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a trip to see "The Miracle of Christmas" at the Millennium Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. on Saturday, Dec. 11.

The cost is \$85 and includes

transportation, show, family style dinner and all gratuities. The bus will leave the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Boulevard at 9 a.m. and return by 9 p.m.

The group is also planning a trip to see the New Jersey Devils play the Washington Capitals on Friday, Jan. 14, which is base-

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COMING EVENTS

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Saturday November 13th

"Santa Is Here"
Thursday December 2nd 3-8PM
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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$5.35 | \$6.75 |
| Monday-Friday | Saturday |
| DINNER 4:30-9:30 PM | |
| \$8.49 | \$10.99 |
| Mon-Thurs. Fri. & Sat. All Day Sun. | |
| CHILDREN (2-10) LUNCH 11-3:30 PM | |
| \$3.39 | \$4.29 |
| Mon-Fri. Sat. Sun. All Day | |
| DINNER 4:30-9:30 PM | |
| \$4.99 | \$5.59 |
| Mon-Thurs. Friday | Saturday Sun. All Day |

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• Business Meetings •
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The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department visited Franklin School to reinforce fire safety measures to the first graders of Franklin School. This was a culminating activity for the first graders, who learned about fire safety during National Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Dept. Visits Franklin School

Columbia Savings Bank Announces Loan Program to Assist Local Flood Victims

Columbia Savings Bank has announced the start of a special Community Loan Assistance Program to help victims of the recent Tropical Storm Floyd.

Northern New Jersey homeowners who have experienced property damage as a result of

the storm can now apply for reduced Home Equity Loans and reduced rate Home Equity Lines of Credit. Typically these loans range from \$5,000 and up, with the terms modified to meet the financial needs of each borrower. For loans greater than

\$25,000, Columbia has also increased its Loan-to-Value Ratio to 90%.

For homeowners with more immediate needs, Columbia also has a number of other special loan programs, including quick-credit approval Home Improvement and Personal Loans. For more information, or to apply for one of these special loans, interested parties can call 1-800-522-4167, or visit their nearest Columbia Savings Bank branch.

With current assets over \$1.9 billion, Columbia Savings Bank is a New Jersey-based, independent community bank that maintains offices in nine counties statewide, including 15 branches in Bergen, Morris and Passaic Counties. Columbia is an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC.

sociation, children from the Young Women Hebrew Association, children at the Ozanam Family Shelter and families affected by the recent flooding in Bound Brook and Manville.

Toys can be dropped off at Family Foot and Ankle Specialists, 84 Stelton Road in Piscataway. If you need more information, call (732) 968-3833.

Toy Donations Sought To Help Needy Children

Dr. Peter A. Wishnie and Doctor Anette Brzozowski will be collecting toys to help sick and unfortunate children in the area. Toys will be collected from Nov. 15 to Dec. 3 and will be handed out by Doctor Wishnie's family and staff.

The toys will be given to terminally ill children under the care of the Visiting Nurse As-

INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Longbothum

Dateline:

Halloween night, 1999. I'm sitting here looking over my new "priceline.com" WebHouse Club Card. You know, the one that came with the Sunday newspaper inserts. It's a credit card sized piece of plastic with a magnetic stripe and an identifying number. This is William Shatner's latest professional involvement, and it's sure to be his most lucrative yet! This is going to be big. Really big!

Priceline.com, I would expect most people to have heard of them by now, has branched out from bidding for airline tickets. Hotel rooms, new cars, home and loan financing, and now groceries are their stock of e-trade. With this card (you get a ten dollar credit with your first use of the card), you go to (www.priceline.com) and click your way through a menu driven online shopping trip. It's pretty cool in that you bid on a price to pay for what you want. They also give you five, free half-price-guaranteed options for each visit to apply toward items accepted at your bid price. In the end, you print out your shopping list-receipt to take to your actual store to pick up your stuff. You register at the time of your online checkout with a credit card. NOW here's where it's cool: you pay at the store's checkout register by first passing through your online bought items, then other items you picked up in the store (non-online bought items), and then swiping the register terminal with the WebHouse Card! Through this sequence of events, you've just charged your groceries via Priceline!

I think buying groceries online is an interesting model, but yet to be proven. However, by recent market success trends, this could work and Priceline is

certainly in the best position to try it now. Look for them to be involved in more ways to facilitate consumerism by saving you significant money. The electronic marketplaces are very much becoming the stuff of buyer's dreams. New and used items of absolutely everything are being sold at auction every minute of every day. If you want to buy something, you "list it," if you want to sell something, you "list it." The services of the e-trade web sites are bringing both parties together. And now, the vendors are pitting themselves against each other to offer you the better/faster deal. Maybe even guys might start to like shopping someday, the way this is getting fun.

Has everyone been following the progress of the return of the Battleship New Jersey? It's not too late to get on the emailing list for the twice daily position and situation reports which have been anxious lately with the blown engine aboard the tow-boat and the subsequent hand-off at sea to another tug. Check out <http://www.battleship-newjersey.com> for continuing updates. The whole transit has been a good developing story too. Catch it today before it's over!

If you've had any online buying or trading experiences that were notable in their ease or difficulty, share your story with us. As this year's holiday buying season approaches, you can bet the Internet will be flooded with e-sales. Any guesses as to the estimated volume this year?? - Briggs Longbothum, ed. (Bruggo@home.com)

Email the *Observer* at ggnan@aol.com.

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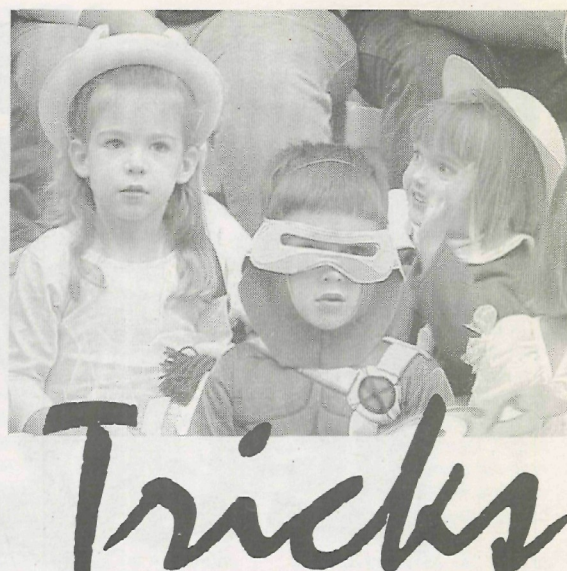
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Tricks

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, we're well into November now, with Halloween and the fall time change behind us (you did remember to set your clocks back, right) and the holiday season on the way. But, while you're here in the middle, let's look at news from the South Plainfield Library:

As of this writing, you can still sign up for tonight's scrapbooking program. Participants will learn how to store their photos attractively and safely. There's a fee of \$8 for this program; it starts at 7 p.m. and pre-registration is needed.

The library will be closed on Thursday in honor of Veteran's Day.

Because of our Thursday closing, we'll only have two children's Storytime programs this week. They'll take place on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. They're for children ages three and up; no registration is needed. If you have any questions, check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

Since we're on the subject of children's programs, here's a report on our Halloween program held on Oct. 27. It was very well attended and very well received. The kids behaved themselves admirably and enjoyed the show. All in all, a good time.

The Library Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. The public is both welcome and encouraged to attend what promises to be an informative meeting.

This month's group of Circuit videos is in place. Featured titles for No-

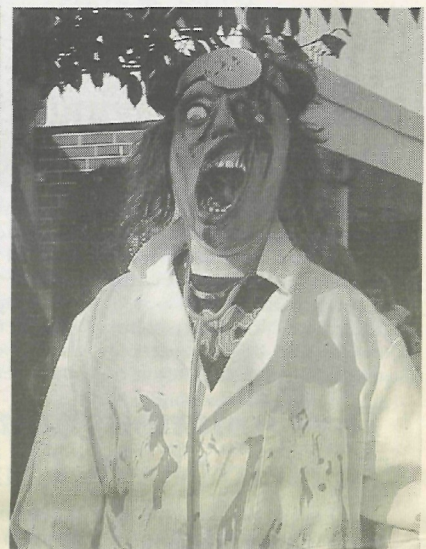
vember include "The Shadow," "Clerks," "Silent Movie," "The Edge" and "Taxi Driver." The group will be available until Nov. 26. You may borrow videos, four at a time, for a period of two days.

We've got two displays ready for November. On our display wall, you can see oil paintings by South Plainfield resident Ginger Pierce. Our display cabinet has vintage photography items provided by area enthusiast John Fernandez. There are daguerreotypes, stereoviewers, pre-1940 photographic items and even a couple of Civil War photos. Mr. Fernandez will also lead a hands-on, informal program about the Daguerreotype process on Thursday, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m.

Here's an advisory: We have no problem at all with posting notices from local organizations. Notices and fliers are prominently displayed at the main desk or back by the public photocopyier. All we ask is that the notices be left with us first; nothing can be displayed without the director's approval. Once she gives the OK, we'll see that they're put up.

And, here's a reminder: The Friends of the Library book sale continues. We've recently added many discarded books weeded from our collection to the inventory. Unless specially marked, items go for the low, low, low price of \$1 per bag.

That'll just about do it for this week. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask us. We'll have more news next time.



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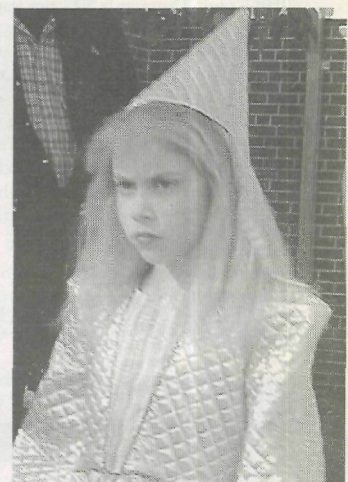
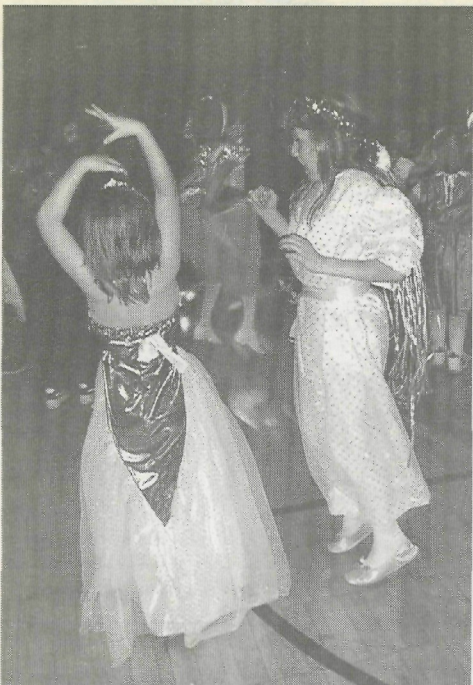


Pictured are students from The Pilgrim Covenant Church Learning Centers 4 Plus Class dressed for their Halloween Parade. The children enjoyed cookies and candies as their special treats at their party following the parade.

and Treats



South Plainfield oozed Halloween last week as costumed fairies and freaks evoked smiles and screams. Celebrations included parties, parades and dances. The SP Public Library celebrated Halloween with special guest Jim Rohe. The renowned storyteller held the audience spellbound with his tales.



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SPORTS

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

Fall Work Detail

A work detail will be held on Saturday, Nov. 6 at the complex. Anyone available to help out can meet at the clubhouse at 8 a.m.

Complex Improvements

Work on the new Pony League building is progressing. The footings have been poured and the rough plumbing is complete. Construction of the walls will start soon. The new building will house a snack bar, bathrooms and an equipment storage area. All the fields were recently seeded and fertilized.

Bids and estimates are being reviewed for the installation of a new sprinkler system on all four fields. Estimates are also being gathered for the installation of lights on Field 1.

Early Registration Results

The October "EARLY" registration was a great success with 274 players registering. Parents and players dropped in throughout the weekend to register, get fitted for uniforms, and order jackets and other clothing items.

2000 Season Registration Results

The next registration weekend will be in held in January. Registration will be held from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 13, Friday Jan. 14, and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 15 at the clubhouse. January registration fees are \$55 for one player, \$85 for two players, \$105 for three or more players (all per family). Registration is open to all South Plainfield residents ages 8 to 16. New players must turn eight years old before Aug. 1, 2000 and must present a copy of a birth certificate. Late registration fees are \$60 per player. No discounts.

2000 Membership

Membership cards for the 2000 season are now available. The cards may be purchased at the monthly meetings.

2000 Season Playing Rules

Playing rule changes were voted on at the November monthly meeting. A copy of the changes is available at the clubhouse. The rule changes will be published in *The Observer* prior to Opening Day 2000.

Parent Sign-up

Any parent interested in being a manager, coach or umpire can sign up during registration, at a monthly meeting, or by contacting the club. Parents are encouraged to attend the monthly men's and women's club meetings. The men's meeting is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. The women's meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Woman's Auxiliary

The Woman's Auxiliary is now offering custom SPJBC outdoor flags. The flags are two feet by three feet; white, black and green; with the new SPJBC logo. The cost is \$21 per flag. Contact Carolyn White at 561-8723 for more information.

Ladies are invited to join us for the annual installation/holiday dinner to be held Friday, Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m. at Flanagan's. The cost for the dinner is \$25. per person. Contact Cindy Eichler 769-4047 by Nov. 24.

The women have extended the sale of Home Interior Jar Candles. Nine different scents are being offered at a cost of \$5.50 per jar, cash & carry. For more information contact Cindy Eichler at 769-4047.

Contact the SPJBC ... Clubhouse 908-754-2090 or email spjbc99@aol.com. Web Site members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html

Events at a glance

Work Detail - Saturday, Nov. 6, at 8 a.m. at the clubhouse.

Registration - Jan. 13, 14, 15 at the clubhouse

Try Outs - Saturday, Mar. 4, at the PAL

Opening Day - Saturday, Apr. 15

South Plainfield Boys Cross Country Takes GMC Blue Division Title

The SPHS boys cross country team has been the highlight this fall season at SPHS. The boys have now won the GMC Blue Division title, which has not been done in at least 20 years. The team now has another record to claim. They have advanced past the Central Jersey state sectional meet in group 2 for the first time in school history. They will now compete with all group 2 schools from the entire state on Nov. 13 in Holmdel.

The team was led by Mike Loenser, (who broke his own record from Oct. 2 at Holmdel) in a time of 17:41. Mike finished ninth overall, which would have qualified him as an individual for the state finals on Nov. 13. He was followed closely by Tim Morgan who finished 14th with a time of 17:52. Next was Rich Gebauer at 18:34 (26), Mike Desimone at 18:57 (41) and Brian Raiti at 19:13 (44). The top five make up the team score but seven boys run in case of ties or disqualification. The "sixth man" was Joe Nappe at 19:38 and frosh Jeff Williams at 19:48.

Congratulations to the entire Tiger team.

In earlier action the SP Tiger boys cross country won the biggest dual meet in twenty years on Oct. 19. They topped the Bulldogs of Metuchen 24-31, in a crucial Blue Division race. Metuchen had a streak of 103 dual meet wins against Blue Division foes coming into the race. They have a strong tradition in cross country and track. Both teams raced well, alternating the first six spots, but the Tigers came in with seven and eight to seal the victory. South Plainfield was led by senior Mike Loenser (17:08) who finished first overall with Tim Morgan (17:41) in third, and Rich Gebauer (17:47) taking fifth overall. The key seventh and eighth spots, were run by Brian Raiti (17:52) and Mike Desimone (17:53). Metuchen was led by Sam Hetzel (17:35) (second), followed by John Randolph (17:42) (fourth), and An-



"I would like to congratulate the runners, because they are the team. They worked hard during the summer and put in the miles."

—Mike Capizola
Tigers Coach

drew Bordieri (17:49) (sixth).

Tigers' coach Mike Capizola was thrilled with the victory. "It's been a long time coming" for South Plainfield, said Coach Capizola. Coach Capizola said "the closest we have come to a division was second in 1988, when we went 15-3 overall. I would like to congratulate the runners, because they are the team. They worked hard during the summer and put in the miles. The key to the win over Metuchen was that Mike kept the lead all the way, with Tim and Rich in the middle keeping it close while Brian and Mike Desimone sealed the deal."

The Metuchen boys showed a lot of class and sportsmanship after the tough loss to South Plainfield by coming over to congrat-

ulate South Plainfield on a job well done. Coach Holeran does a great job with the Metuchen program.

On Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Greater Middlesex Conference meet in Thompson Park, the Tigers once again came through as a team. They finished fifth out of the 22 teams in boys varsity. According to the local papers they were not even mentioned as a top five finish team. This was the highest finish by a non-group 4 school. They beat a strong Edison team (group 4) by five points to capture fifth in an average time of 17:43.9. All five Tigers finished under 18:04 to capture the highest finish in the GMC's in over 19 years. Mike Loenser, who led the Tigers, finished 24th overall

(17:07) with Tim Morgan (32nd) (17:25), Mike Desimone (44) (17:59), Rich Gebauer (45) (18:03.3), and Brian Raiti (46) (18:03.8), following. The top seven was rounded out with Joe Nappe (18:49) and Eric Johnson (19:07). With three of the top five returning next year, the Tigers could improve on this year's spectacular GMC race.

This group of young men have worked hard and made a name for themselves and South Plainfield in cross country. Their road continued on Oct. 30 as they entered the state sectionals, at Holmdel Park. Coach Capizola said he is "looking forward to advancing in the state sectional and group meets."

Last Chance to Sign Up for Recreation Wrestling Program

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be holding registration for children interested in joining their wrestling program on Saturday, Nov. 6 from 1-3 p.m.

Registration will take place at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

Wrestling is open to children ages 5-11 (as of 10/1/98). The fee is \$25. Parents must accompany their child.

Wrestling teaches self discipline, self defense, keeps children physically fit and is a great way to meet friends.

Entertainment Coupon Books Support Our Veterans

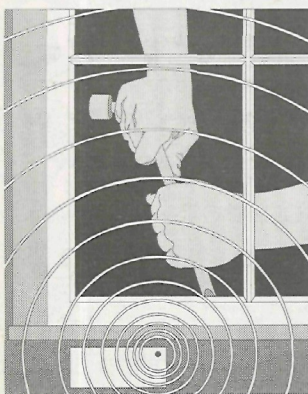
Once again the *Entertainment* coupon books are available offering great discounts and shopping bargains. The books sell for \$30 and may be purchased from many sources! This year, you are invited and encouraged to buy the *Entertainment* books from the South Plainfield Elks Veterans Service Committee. (Lou Peralta, Chrmn. 908-756-6406). If you are going to buy one anyway, please take a moment to call Lou, and buy one through the Veterans Committee.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) do more to support and care for our veterans than any other group outside

of the US Federal Government! The ELKS need your help now, as they are taking up the slack in the face of our government's cutbacks to veterans. This is a shameful situation, and only the Elks and individual citizens are left to care for those who cared so much for us. This year, let's all do the right thing and support our Vets by buying the *Entertainment* books through the Elks Veterans Committee.

See <http://www.njelks.rutgers.edu/main/national.htm> for more insight into the Elks role in founding VA Medical Centers and the G.I. Bill.

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SPORTS

High School Football...

Tigers Rally Falls Short in Edison

By Brian Cochrane

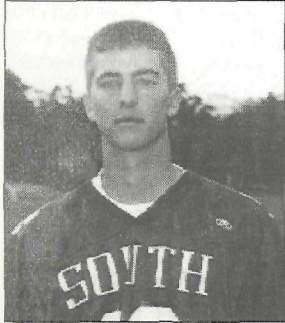
The South Plainfield Tiger football team traveled to Edison last Friday and participated in what should go down as a classic football game. Although the Trojans from Bishop Ahr pre-

24 minutes and found themselves trailing 13-0 at the half. Then, lightning struck quickly early in the second half. Sophomore defensive back Jimmy Nguyen was involved in what appeared to be a late hit during a punt return. Nguyen stayed down for several minutes and was eventually taken off in an ambulance. The cheapness of the hit and the fact their teammate was now on his way to the hospital definitely fired up the Tigers.

Lamaar Grier capped a long Tiger scoring drive by plunging in from three yard out. Then on Bishop Ahrs next series, Lamaar intercepted a Trojan pass deep inside Tiger territory to halt their drive. On the very next play, Lamaar hooked up with Junior QB Jason Bataille on a beautiful 88 yard scoring strike and the ensuing two point conversion which pulled the Tigers to within 10 points.

Grier and Bataille connected twice more in the fourth quarter; once from 41 yards out and then again from 30, to round out the Tiger scoring and cap off what was clearly this combos greatest game. Lamaar was held to only 58 yards on the ground, but through the air he caught six balls for 189 yards.

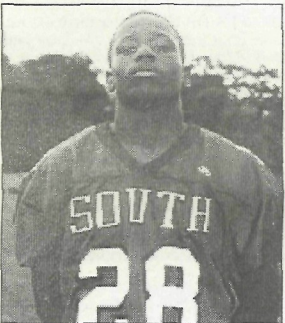
Jason's 13-16 accuracy and a South Plainfield offensive line that gave him good protection enabled Bataille to rack up 275 yards in passing. Next up is the Tigers home finale against St. Mary's of South Amboy tonight at 7 p.m.



Jason Bataille

ailed 39-28, two Tigers had career games in the process.

It was a tale of two halves once again as the Tigers couldn't generate much offense for the first



Lamaar Grier



Recreation Soccer D League

Team: Crew

Coach: Tom Lanza

Players: Stephen Lanza, Michael Dispenziere, Glenn Edridge, Joseph Fugazzi, Peter Hlavka, Michael Morcharski, Julian Krupit, Joseph Nicastro, Anthony Pisano, Taylor Jarema and Alexandra Pisack.



Team: Hawks

Coach: Stephen Cisz

Players: Marisa Bartone, Brittany Foran, Keith Horvath, Kyle Pompilio, Jeffrey Bodyl, Christopher Richard, Eric Carrasca, Charles Gruver, Matthew Sward and Joseph Ifrach.



Team: Lions

Coach: John Krylowski

Players: Brandon Staynings, Brenden Berry, Adam Buck, Ryan Billich, Ryan Lind, Jeffrey Gillen, Cassandra Vazquez, Ryan Hutchinson, Kyle O'Keefe and Idris Sadiq.

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Obituaries

George R. Jacques, 57

George R. Jacques died on Saturday, Oct. 30, in Trenton.

Born in Irvington, he had resided South Plainfield for the past 40 years.

He was employed by Otis Elevator of New York City as an elevator repairman.

Surviving are his mother, Sadie Jacques, and his brother, Robert J. Jacques, both of South Plainfield.

Private funeral arrangements were by McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Kalliope Ganiaris, 84

Kalliope Ganiaris died on Saturday, Oct. 30, in her home.

Born in Kallimasia-Hios, Greece, she came to the United States in 1966 and lived in Woodbridge for the past 33 years.

She was a homemaker and a very fine and loving woman to her family and friends and to whom ever she came in contact with. Mrs. Ganiaris will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Surviving are her husband, Stefanos Ganiaris; a daughter, Irene Kokodis of Woodbridge; a son, Peter Ganiaris of South Plainfield; two sisters, Hriso Ganiaris and Bessy Lambrinoudis, both of Greece and a brother, Gus Rithianose of Forked River.

Also surviving are her five grandchildren, Alice Bletsis, Kali Kokodis, Stephen, Angelique and Martina Ganiaris.

Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Gertrude (Golden) Borke Rawding, 94

Gertrude (Golden) Borke Rawding died on Friday, Oct. 29, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Jersey City and had resided there and in Dunellen and had lived in South Plainfield for the past 15 years. She was a homemaker.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Stanley Borke, and by her son, William Borke.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Jane and Chris Monaghan of South Plainfield; two sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel and Darlene Borke of Chicago, Ill. and Joseph and Joan Borke of Old Bridge, and by her sister, Lulu Keller of Toms River.

She is survived by her two granddaughters and their spouses, Jack and Diane Steger, Laura

and Todd Frontz, all of South Plainfield. She is also survived by many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Lawrence "Larry" Gibbons, 59

Lawrence "Larry" Gibbons, Jr. died on Sunday, Oct. 31, in Somerset Medical Center, Somerville.

Born in Bayonne, he had resided in Linden, Warren and Colonia before moving to North Plainfield in 1968.

He had been employed by Pathmark Supermarkets in Somerville in the dairy department and had worked for the Pathmark Supermarkets for the past 40 years.

He had served in the United States Army from 1958 to 1959 and had been a graduate of North Plainfield High School in 1957.

His sister, Lillian Behlau, died in 1988.

Surviving are his wife, Sula (Mendez) Gibbons; two sons, Lawrence Gibbons, III of Bridgewater and Ralph Gibbons of Brick; three sisters, Viola Gibbons of Union, Veronica Alzheimer of Jackson and Kathryn Dencklau of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Mary (Waddell) Sculthorpe, 74

Mary (Waddell) Sculthorpe died at home.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., Mrs. Sculthorpe had resided in Scotland for six years and had returned to the United States residing in Maplewood. She has resided in South Plainfield for the past 46 years.

She was a homemaker and a member of Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, George Sculthorpe, died in 1968.

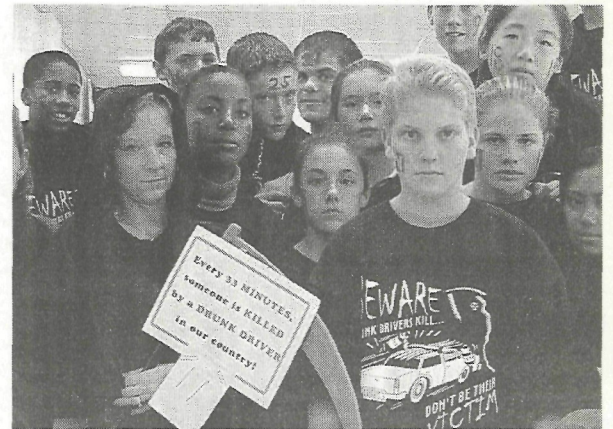
Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Mary A. and Paul Spisso of South Plainfield; a son, John Sculthorpe of Tampa, Fla.; a son and daughter-in-law, George R., Sr. and Mary Sculthorpe of Tampa, Fla.; three brothers, John Waddell of Freehold, James Waddell of Sea Girt and Patrick Waddell of St. Petersburg, Fla. Also surviving are seven grandchildren, Lorraine, Heather, Adrienne, Paul C., Sarah, George and Joseph, and two great grandchildren, Andrew & Matthew.

Funeral Services were at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Middle School Students "Dress Up" Against Drugs During National Red Ribbon Week

By Patricia Abbott

National Red Ribbon Week was celebrated in the Middle School from Oct. 25-29. Monday all students and staff received red ribbons. The ribbons represent the war on drugs and alcohol and the pledge to stay drug-free. Tuesday's theme was "Sock It To Drugs." Students were encouraged to wear their craziest socks. Wednesday brought wild head gear to school as the students showed off their hats to "Put a Cap on Tobacco Use." Thursday was a more somber day as newly-elected student council members donned black tee shirts depicting drunk driving statistics. Each student had a number on their forehead representing a drunken driving victim. Lisa Campoli, Student Assistance Counselor, portrayed the "grim reaper." The sickle held a sign noting that someone is killed by a drunk driver every 33 minutes. She walked the halls ringing a bell and



stopping by classrooms every 33 minutes throughout the day. Friday brought a writing assignment for the entire school. The students answered the question, "Why do young people turn to alcohol and drugs? What do you see as the solution?" Peer leaders decorated showcases and bulletin boards with

the theme "FEAR DRUGS: THEY WILL RUIN YOUR LIFE!"

The week long red ribbon campaign was founded by National Family Partnership, a group of volunteers "committed to nurturing the full potential of all children by opposing the illegal use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs."

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope

11/6-11/10

SCORPIO 10/24-11/22 Get some up to date information on important matters. And in a few days you'll be able to use the information when you discover a mistake. Take it easy! All that running around you've been doing is starting to take its toll. Go to bed early a few times this week.

SAGITTARIUS 11/23-12/21 Your instincts and intuition are enhanced these days and some of your fondest wishes may come true. Prosperity surrounds your your home and family. The sale or purchase of a home or domestic items is highly fortunate. Be careful of overeating if you are on a diet.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 This week, failure to live up to your promises or accept responsibilities in the past may come back to haunt you. Expect to encounter discouragement from authority, rules and regulations, endless delays, and other frustrations. You will be challenged by those in authority.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Relationships with others may be difficult this week, either because you have difficulty in contending with the restrictions others place on you, or because they have difficulty contending with the restrictions you place upon them. There can be ego conflicts, so tone it down a little.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 This is a time when you can gain inspiration from your mother or a strong female figure, and the opportunity for success will be great. Your intuition and instincts are greatly heightened. Listen to your inner voice as it can lead you to some fortunate circumstances.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 If you're feeling irritable and nervous which can happen this week, try to find a moment to slow down and

perhaps meditate for a bit. Your perceptions and your reactions will be fast so you may be called on to "put out fires." But towards others think before you speak.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 This will be a good week for pleasure and social visits. It may also be good for financial investments. But for these, check out the longer-term investments. Also, legal matters are favored. This is a good time to plan a party. How about taking a trip. Go to an art gallery or create art.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 This is a period of increased potential for an opportunity that leads to romance, making social contacts, establishing partnerships and other alliances, and improving your physical appearance. Do not be surprised when you receive flowers or candy. And return the favor.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 This is a good time when group efforts are favorable. You are better able to lead people in projects, understanding where they are coming from. Also a burst of energy will have you feeling good but if you do not get out there and play some sports or exercise, it can become nervous energy.

LEO 7/23-8/22 This is a time when circumstances provide opportunities to become more physically active, more aggressive in pursuing goals, and better at accomplishing tasks. If you are not currently engaging in any physical fitness exercise, this is an opportune time to begin.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 There is a likelihood of a spontaneous trip, a sudden decision to get in touch with people, or unexpected contact from others. Neighbors or relatives offer transportation. You may even end up taking that trip with them or at least running those unexpected errands.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 You have a special talent for solving others' problems, because you see both sides of a situation clearly. Just be careful to respect other people's boundaries, however, because some people would rather not change their situation, even if it were not a good one.

QUOTE: Friends are like gold and silver. The more you horde the richer you are.

IN MEMORIAM



In sad and loving memory of
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November 8, 1998
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POLICE REPORT

• An employee of Home Depot reported being assaulted by resident of Edison. The suspect was asked by the victim to wait five minutes until the closed aisle he was working in could be reopened. When the aisle was opened, the suspect approached the victim and after verbal confrontation pushed him into the racks. The suspect was arrested outside of the store.

• A Meister Ave. resident reported an attempted burglary. The lock to his overhead garage door had been damaged. Pry marks were found on the lock. No entry was gained.

• A Garden Drive resident reported the theft of two bikes from his detached garage. Suspects entered a fenced yard and a screened porch attached to the garage. The suspects then opened a window to gain entry to the garage. The bikes were removed via the garage door. Nothing else was taken. Police were able to lift several fingerprints from the glass.

• Bill Knapp of Belle Mead reported a residence he owns on Fredericks Ave. had been ransacked.

Entry was gained by forcing basement windows open and removing the basement door inside. A microwave oven, cabinet doors and burners from the stove were removed. A neighbor reported hearing noises but did not investigate.

• Dr. Patrico Sonza of Flemington reported his car was burglarized while parked at Pizzeria Uno. Upon investigation, police discovered the missing items in a plastic bag under another vehicle. It is unknown how entry was gained.

• A West 7th St. resident reported a briefcase stolen from her vehicle. The vehicle was parked at her home. Entry was gained via an unlocked passenger door. The briefcase contained ID for the victim's job, an umbrella and assorted papers.

• Lisa Ann Menafro of Edison reported her wallet missing from her desk at Maquire Group on Hadley Rd. The wallet was left on the desk and the victim, who was the only one working, left the office for a short time, leaving the door unlocked.

• A Spicer Ave. resident

called 911 to report that her husband was attempting to leave in a vehicle. Police responded and found him to be intoxicated. The suspect was uncooperative. He was advised that if officers had to return, he would be placed under arrest. Approximately 10 minutes later, the suspect called 911 and used foul language. An officer was dispatched to his home and he was placed under arrest.

• Franklin School reported damage to the sign in front of their school. A canvas of the neighborhood produced no suspects.

• Elizabethtown Water of North Plainfield reported a fire hydrant missing from the corner of New Market and South Clinton Ave.

• UNISYS of Hadley Rd. reported several interior doors pried or kicked open. An outside door was left unsecured. Nothing was reported missing.

• American Meat Mng. on Hadley Rd. reported an attempted burglary. Pry marks were found on a back door. No entry was gained.

• Pacific Micro Inc. also on Hadley Rd. reported a burglary. The front door had been smashed, a rock was found nearby. Stolen were six sound cards and 20 hard disk drives.

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LOST AND FOUND

VERY FRIENDLY NEUTERED MALE Black tiger, white paws, nose and neck. Found in South Plainfield. Call 769-48894.

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100X200 BLDG. LOT/SOMERSET. \$69,900. Residential neighborhood. Ask for Susan. Call Prudential Golden Key Realty 732-560-0665.

PHOTOGRAPHY

COPIES OF OBSERVER PHOTOS for sale. Call Pattie Abbott at 756-8011 or the Observer at 908-668-0010.

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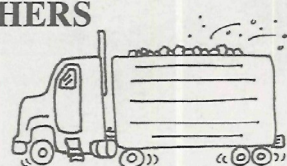
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Nordstrom's Hosts Flo's Piano Studio Recital



A 'Piano Prom Recital' featuring six talented students from Flo's Piano Studio was held on Oct. 15 at Nordstrom's in Menlo Park.

Joseph Regan, concert pianist/piano manager of Nordstrom's, made the introductions as the recitalists were escorted to the piano area. A large crowd gathered for the concert/recital.

The evening began with a musical interlude provided by Flo Powell, proprietor/teacher, at Flo's and Roland Washington on the saxophone.

The recitalists arrived at Nordstrom's by limousine, along with their chaperone Ms. Freda Jones. The five girls were dressed in evening gowns and the lone gentleman wore a tuxedo. It was indeed a formal affair, including the glitter that accompanies a prom.

The six recitalists were:

Victoria Zappi is a South Plainfield

High School student. She is a member of the undefeated high school gymnastics team and also participates with the All-stars from Feigley's Gymnastics. Victoria received the "Gold Award" for piano at last year's recital.

Kimberly Ann Galinsky is a fifth grade student at John E. Riley School. This ten-year-old began taking lessons in first grade. Kimberly also received the "Gold Award" for piano at last year's recital. She has played at the Rossmoor Senior Community Club House in Cranbury and the Homestead Senior Community Club House in Columbus, Ohio.

Britney Denielle Hollaway is a fifth grade student at John E. Riley School. She has been playing the piano since she was two years old and began taking lessons at the age of five. Britney loves music—especially jazz. She received the "Gold Award" and the "Meredith Marie



Brown Piano Award" at last year's recital. She has performed at Mount Saint Mary's Academy Concert Series and also at her grandmother's church.

Cionna McCalman-Forsythe resides in Plainfield, was inducted into the New Jersey Honor's Society, and has earned a scholarship to Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School in Kingston, Pa. Cionna is a ninth grader. She played at the eighth grade graduation ceremony.

Kaija Helene Hunter is a freshman at Piscataway High School. She is a member of Calvary Baptist Church, where she serves as the Sunday School pianist. She lives in a household that consists of four generations. Kaija received both the "Gold Award" and the "Meredith Marie Brown Piano Award" (the highest award) at last year's recital.

Andre Michael Boomer is a freshman at Franklin High School in Somerset. Andre started out playing piano by ear at the age of eight and began formal lessons at the age of ten. Andre is a member of the Franklin High School Marching Band and a former member of Sampson G. Smith School Jazz and Concert Bands. He is an organist/pianist at the Good Shepherd Church of Christ in Newark, where his father is pastor.

A large crowd gathered to hear the recital and the seats were filled before the first recitalist began and continued to swell as the music continued. Each student performed one classical piece and a selection of their own. All six recitalists played without the benefit of sheet music. After the concert/recital a reception was held to present awards and certificates.



November

& Meetings & Events

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|----------|
| Editorial copy deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising copy deadline: Monday, 5 pm | 1 Recreation Comm. Mtg 7 pm PAL Flu Shots at Borough Hall 5-7 pm | 2 Election Day | 3 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am | 4 Scoop Dinner High School 5 p.m. Board of Adjustment 8 pm Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm | 5 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer | 6 |
| 7 VFW Country Breakfast 8-11 pm Flu Shots at Middle School 12:30-2:30 PM | 8 Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm | 9 Library Board 7:30 pm SP Athletic Booster meeting HS Cafeteria 7 p.m. Planning Board Mtg 8 pm | 10 Environmental Comm. 8 p.m. Cultural Arts Comm. 8 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm | 11 Veteran's Day | 12 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Land Management Advisory Comm. 7:30 pm | 16 Board of Education Meeting 8 p.m. Board of Adjustment 8 pm Board of Health 7:30 p.m. | 17 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm | 18 SP Business Assoc. Mtg. at Sherbans | 19 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer | 20 |
| 21 | 22 Borough Council Mtg 8 pm | 23 Planning Board Mtg 8 pm Recycling Comm. 8 pm | 24 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm | 25 Illustration of a person sitting at a desk with a lamp | 26 Publication of So. Plfd. Observer | 27 |

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